

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

IB2004/004125

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B01D15/08 B01J20/28 B01J20/22 G01N30/48

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B01D B01J G01N C08L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	BADIGER M V ET AL: "CONCENTRATION OF MACROMOLECULES FROM AQUEOUS SOLUTIONS: A NEW SWELLEX PROCESS" CHEMICAL ENGINEERING SCIENCE, OXFORD, GB, vol. 47, no. 1, 1992, pages 3-9, XP009044867 ISSN: 0009-2509 Abstract, Introduction, Industrial application of the swellex process ----- --/--	1-15, 24-26

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

31/03/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	VASHEGHANI-FARAHANI E ET AL: "CONCENTRATION OF LARGE BIOMOLECULES WITH HYDROGELS" CHEMICAL ENGINEERING SCIENCE, OXFORD, GB, vol. 47, no. 1, 1992, pages 31-40, XP009044868 ISSN: 0009-2509 Abstract, Introduction, Gel preparation and experimental procedure -----	1-29, 32
X	PRAZERES D M F: "Concentration of BSA using a superabsorbent polymer: process evaluation" JOURNAL OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS, AMSTERDAM, NL, vol. 39, no. 2, 15 April 1995 (1995-04-15), pages 157-164, XP004036981 ISSN: 0168-1656 cited in the application the whole document -----	1-27
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X	US 5 098 970 A (HSIEH ET AL) 24 March 1992 (1992-03-24) claims; example 1 -----	15-24
X	US 2003/162853 A1 (SMILEY LEONARD H) 28 August 2003 (2003-08-28) claim 1; examples 9,11 -----	1
X	US 3 247 171 A (WALKER HAROLD J ET AL) 19 April 1966 (1966-04-19) the whole document -----	30,31
X	EP 0 530 438 A (HOECHST CELANESE CORPORATION) 10 March 1993 (1993-03-10) page 2, line 41 - line 58; claims -----	15-24, 27,32

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